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## USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN ELECTION PROCESS-BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES

**Prof. Amar Anna Bulle<sup>\*1</sup>**

<sup>\*1</sup>Associate Professor, Department Of Political Science, Rajarshi Shahu Arts And Commerce College, Rukadi, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, India.

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### ABSTRACT

The election process is updating its all activities as per the requirement from the election commission and also demand from the political parties for the better of the democracy at large the various tools and techniques are used to make the election process more effective and error free. Introduction of information and communications technologies (ICT) into the electoral process is generating both interest and concern among voters, as well as practitioners, across the globe. Today, most electoral management bodies (EMBs) around the world use new technologies with the aim of improving the electoral process. These technologies range from the use of basic office automation tools such as word processing and spreadsheets to more sophisticated data processing tools, such as database management systems, optical scanning and geographic information systems. One especially important application of technology to elections is e-voting. This paper highlights on various aspects of the use of technology in election process including its benefits and challenges

**Keywords:** Election, Technology, Voter, Parliament, Information, Evm.

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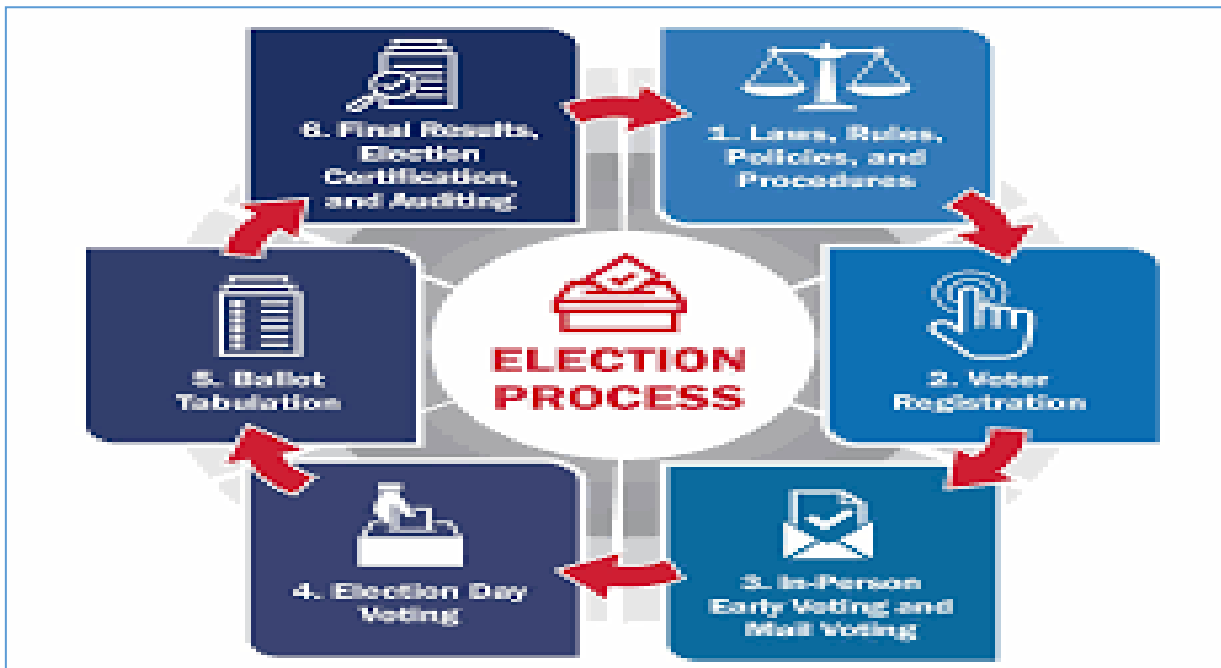
### I. INTRODUCTION

The election process now requires best possible way to make the process efficient and well worse to the voters and other stakeholders of the election system. Electronic voting (also known as e-voting) is voting that uses electronic means to either aid or take care of casting and counting ballots.

Depending on the particular implementation, e-voting may use standalone electronic voting machines (also called EVM) or computers connected to the Internet. It may encompass a range of Internet services, from basic transmission of tabulated results to full-function online voting through common connectable household devices. The degree of automation may be limited to marking a paper ballot, or may be a comprehensive system of vote input, vote recording, data encryption and transmission to servers, and consolidation and tabulation of election results.

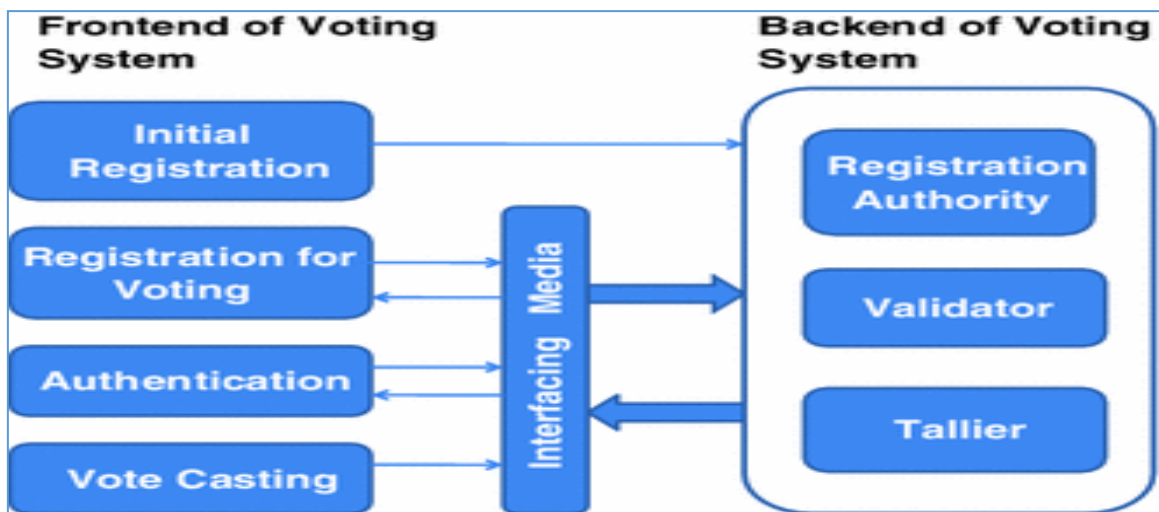
A worthy e-voting system must perform most of these tasks while complying with a set of standards established by regulatory bodies, and must also be capable to deal successfully with strong requirements associated with security, accuracy, integrity, Electronic voting technology can include punched cards, optical scan voting systems and specialized voting kiosks (including self-contained direct-recording electronic voting systems, or DRE). It can also involve transmission of ballots and votes via telephones, private computer networks, or the Internet.

**Election Process in Brief:-**



Source:-<https://www.eac.gov/sites/default>

**Online Voting**



Security experts have found security problems in every attempt at online voting, including systems in Australia, Estonia Switzerland, Russia, and the United States.



Source:- <https://www.thenews.com.pk/pr>

It has been argued political parties that have more support from the less fortunate—who are unfamiliar with the Internet—may suffer in the elections due to e-voting, which tends to increase voting in the upper/middle class. It is unsure as to whether narrowing the digital divide would promote equal voting opportunities for people across various social, economic, and ethnic backgrounds. In the long run, this is contingent not only on internet accessibility but also depends on people's level of familiarity with the Internet.

The effects of internet voting on overall voter turnout are unclear. A 2017 study of online voting in two Swiss cantons found that it had no effect on turnout, and a 2009 study of Estonia's national election found similar results. To the contrary, however, the introduction of online voting in municipal elections in the Canadian province of Ontario resulted in an average increase in turnout of around 3.5 percentage points. Similarly, a further study of the Swiss case found that while online voting did not increase overall turnout, it did induce some occasional voters to participate who would have abstained were online voting not an option. A paper on “remote electronic voting and turnout in the Estonian 2007 parliamentary elections” showed that rather than eliminating

## II. WHY "ELECTIONS USING TECHNOLOGY"?

In many countries, technology is present in activities related to the electoral process, and in some cases it is essential to the conduct of elections. Technology is used, for example, to compile voter lists, to draw electoral boundaries, to manage and train staff, to print ballots, to conduct voter education campaigns, to record cast votes, to count and consolidate vote results and to publish election results. The appropriate application of technology to elections can increase administrative efficiency, reduce long-term costs and enhance political transparency.



Source:- <https://www.google.com/search?q=onl>

Technologies used for elections can include familiar and older ones like printing presses, ball point pens, manual typewriters, electronic calculators and radios, or newer technologies like computers, optical scanners, digital mapping and the Internet. The logistics of modern large-scale elections can be a considerable challenge for countries without access to technology.

The complexity level of technology used for the administration of elections around the world varies enormously. The rate of technological change is so high that election management bodies (EMBs) must regularly re-evaluate their use of technology to determine whether they should adopt new or updated technology to improve their performance.

This Elections and Technology (ET) topic area aims to assist EMBs in this task by:

- Describing technologies that are currently being used for electoral processes
- Presenting guidelines for the evaluation, choice and implementation of new technologies
- Providing examples of so-called best practices in the use of technology as well as examples where technology has not lived up to expectations
- Examining some of the emerging technologies and trends to identify those that may apply to elections in the near future.

### III. IMPLEMENTING TECHNOLOGY FOR ELECTION ADMINISTRATION



Source:- <https://www.google.com/se>

In the process of implementing specific technologies for elections administration, there are a few considerations to take into account, some common to any implementation of technologies others more specific to the electoral process:

Elections can be a high risk activity . They have to be conducted properly, open to public scrutiny, and there is not much room for errors. Unlike other applications of technology, where systems can be introduced gradually with extended testing and implementation schedules, many election systems are used for the first time on Election Day and, therefore, must work correctly or the entire election may be jeopardized.

An electoral management body needs to consider the upgrade of existing technology versus the introduction of new technology. Thorough evaluations are necessary to avoid incurring high costs for relatively minor improvements. Depending on the application, it may be more appropriate to continue using the existing system.

This leads to the consideration of the cost-effectiveness of implementing a new technology. Evaluation studies of costs and savings associated with introducing technology need to take into consideration, not only the initial costs involved in purchasing equipment and materials, but also the cost of setting up the new system, additional expertise and the need for ongoing maintenance and management. (This will likely involve obtaining an additional commitment of funds through the relevant government budgetary process.)

**Time frames for implementing new technology need to be carefully studied and defined :**

- To consult with stakeholders
- To identify and evaluate needs
- To evaluate and select specific technology to be adopted
- To implement the new system
- To test the system features and outcomes in order to make sure that it works properly when needed
- To train the users of the system

**Challenges in using Technology in election process.**

Following are the some of the issues in using all the new technology in the election process-

- Infrastructural Requirements
- Government policies
- Voter Literacy
- Financial Requirements
- Expert Support
- Support from all the Political Parties



#### IV. CONCLUSION

The Election process is one of the most important process in any country which can shape the future of the power of the political party who can be in power and who can be in opposition there for this process has to be very independent and free from any type of misuse and partiality . This paper is gives brief idea about how technology can be used to make all activities of election through advanced technology and make it efficient and time bound task. The election commission will make the positive decision in making this process dependent on technology then people. The political parties and voters should believe the system and keep faith in all activities that are properly carried out by the election commission. The author has done decent contribution in making this important topic of election and its process using advanced technology in activities of election also it will create awareness about the same to all the leaders and readers.

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